

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE

VIRGINIA

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

FILTER STRIP

CODE 393

Land Owner/Operator_____

County_____ SWCD_____ Farm/Tract No. _____

Prepared By_____ Date_____

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS

A properly operated and maintained vegetated filter strip is an asset to your farm. This vegetated filter strip was designed and installed to remove sediment and pollutants from runoff. The estimated life span of this installation is at least _____ years. The life of this installation can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out a systematic operation and maintenance program.

This practice will require periodic maintenance and may also require operational items to maintain satisfactory performance. Your operation and maintenance program requirements include:

- Filter strip vegetative plantings should be harvested as appropriate to encourage dense growth, maintain an upright growth habit, and remove nutrients and other contaminants that are contained in the plant tissue.
- Maintain vigorous growth of vegetative coverings. This includes reseeding, fertilization and application of herbicides when necessary. Apply supplemental nutrients as needed to maintain the desired species composition and stand density of the filter strip. Control undesired weed species, especially state-listed noxious weeds.
- Prescribed burning may be used to manage and maintain the filter strip when an approved burn plan has been developed.
- Inspect the filter strip after storm events and repair any damages. Remove all foreign debris that hinders system operation.
- To maintain or restore the filter strip's function, periodically regrade the filter strip area when sediment deposition at the filter strip-field interface jeopardizes its function, and then reestablish the filter strip vegetation, if needed. If wildlife habitat is a purpose, destruction of vegetation within the portion of the strip devoted to that purpose should be minimized by regrading only to the extent needed to remove sediment and fill concentrated flow areas.
- Grazing shall not be permitted in the filter strip. Limit the traffic and do not use as a roadway.
- Immediately repair any vandalism, vehicular, or livestock.

- Eradicate or otherwise remove all rodents or burrowing animals. Immediately repair any damage caused by their activity.

Additional Operation and Maintenance Requirements Specific to this Plan:_____

[illegible]